

Regular Meeting
Recreation Commission
Borough of Rumson

July 17, 2019

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:01PM.

Present: Commissioners; Kerry Chandler; Mike Cecil; Jon Levine; Michael Ingrassia; and Irene Hall.

Kevin Delia, Recreation Director; Laura Atwell, Borough Council President and Rob Swikart, Borough Council Member.

Not Present: Commissioners; Dorothy Whitehouse and Adam Cavise.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- The minutes from the June 19th Recreation Commission meeting were presented. Motion to accept the minutes as written were approved by Kerry Chandler and seconded by Mike Cecil. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Rob Swikart explained to the Recreation Commission his reasoning for stepping aside as the acting chairman of the Rumson Recreation Commission suggested that Kerry Chandler fill the position for the remainder of the year. Rob continued to praise the Recreation Commissioners for their time and effort to work together on improving programs with rec and travel sports. He suggested that when issues have taken long time to discuss it should be curbed and have a separate special meeting scheduled to specifically discuss that issue. Kevin Delia added some details to the history with Rob sitting in as the chairman for the past few months. Kevin asked if anyone had an objection to Kerry filling the role of chairman for the remainder of the year and all were in favor.

GENERAL INFORMATION FROM DIRECTOR

- The treasurers report for May was provided by Helen Graves, Borough of Rumson CFO to the Recreation Commission.
- Kevin introduced Eric Paone-Hurd as the new Communications and Recreation Coordinator for the Borough of Rumson. He explained Eric's role within communications and recreation how he benefit the community as a whole. Kevin continued that Eric will be starting in a few weeks but was interested in attending the meeting to meet the Recreation

Commissioners. Eric gave some details on his background and how excited he is to come on board with the Borough.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Kevin Delia asked the Recreation Commissioners on the best way to approach getting feedback from the coaches. He said that in the past the questionnaires have been so generic to keep it short that he doesn't feel there is a benefit to each sport. It was asked if a meeting was helpful but Kevin said we would only get about 3 coaches to show up. He did say that he got about 30% return on the surveys but reiterated that the questions don't provide a tremendous value due to the condensed nature of the survey. Kevin asked that the Recreation Commissioners think of a new method to get better more detailed feedback from the coaches and community.
- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commissioners that the coaches meetings are coming up for Flag Football and Rec Soccer. He suggested that we add to the sessions to provide more than just the safety protocol and player draft. He asked the commissioners to provide some philosophical ideas to help improve our coaches for the upcoming meetings. He asked that the commissioners attend the meetings to help provide details from their coaching experience on how to handle situations and how to engage the kids better. Kevin said he would like to keep this additional material to about 20 minutes in addition to the safety meeting and player draft. It was suggested that we hold additional coaches clinics to help provide more to the coaches to make them feel comfortable coaching.
- Kevin Delia asked if it would be beneficial to the clinic coaches to hold separate meetings for them to focus on their needs and development as opposed to having coaches from all the divisions at once. It was suggested to hold coaches clinic prior to the season utilizing RFH coaches to help develop the new, younger coaches and to provide them philosophy to coaching.
- Kevin Delia updated the Recreation Commissioners on the summer programs. He told them about summer hoops and how popular the summer playground was this season. Kevin went on to explain how the funds are utilized from the summer camps.
- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commissioners about the late fee period and how much has been collected since the July 15th late fee institution date.
- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commissioners about the issues he's had with the NJ Referee Association with scheduling a certification class. He said due to the cancelling of the class he plans on holding an in-town training session to help the new referees be prepared for the season.
- Kevin Delia provided an update on the field assignments for the fall. It was recommended that the Forrestdale soccer field be rested for the fall and put tackle football and flag football at Meadow Ridge West for the season. He also said that Fair Haven will be helping with fields for the beginning of the season to help alleviate field abuse.
- Kevin Delia asked the Recreation Commissioners about their thoughts of the end of the season tournament for the 1st/2nd grade soccer program. Kevin explained the issues that have been brought up from coaches as well as the concerns he has with field issues with this tournament. It was recommended that as opposed to the end of the season for the

1st/2nd grade soccer we hold a play-day/field day. All were in agreement to see how this goes for this season and reconsider for next year.

- Kevin Delia told the Recreation Commissioners about an incident with the columns with the basketball courts at Victory Park and Rogers Park. He was made aware that a child broke their wrist after colliding with the concrete structure. It was recommended that we look into padding for the columns. Kevin said he would look into it and get back to commissioners with details at the next meeting.
- Kevin Delia explained the issues there has been with the scheduling of the travel baseball tryouts for this coming fall season. He said there were conflicts due to Little League All Star games as well as travel lacrosse that would cause attendance issues. He said they will likely hold tryouts in August to avoid these. Kevin was asked about the 7u tryouts and he explained that it was discussed and decided to not hold a 7u tryout this fall and only have a clinic. He went on to say that the concerns for field space for all the teams made it difficult to warrant holding a tryout. Kevin said that he, Chuck Jones, travel baseball coordinator, and Adam Cavise decided to only have a clinic for this age group as we did two years ago.
- Kevin Delia presented the Recreation Commissioners with the list of suggested coaches for the fall 2019 travel basketball season. Mike Cecil, travel basketball coordinator, gave some insight on the coaching vacancies still left and will bring those to the next meeting once the coaches are identified. Kevin asked if there are any concerns with the proposed names. Kerry Chandler made a motion to approve the coaches that were proposed. Mike Ingrassia seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Kevin Delia provided the remaining names for the coaching vacancies for the fall 2019/spring 2020 travel soccer seasons. Kerry Chandler made a motion to approve the coaches that were proposed. Jon Levine seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Kevin Delia asked if the Recreation Commission would like to discuss the inclusion of the 3rd grade girls with the 4th grade Mid-Monmouth Basketball tryouts. Mike Cecil gave his experience with the girls of this age as well as how other towns manage the same issue. A conversation continued on the past issues that have been raised with this age group. Kerry Chandler made the motion to not allow the 3rd grade girls to participate in the 4th grade Mid-Monmouth Basketball tryouts. Mike Ingrassia seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Kevin Delia asked if the Recreation Commissioners would like to establish a date to discuss the travel sports tryout procedures that were not finalized at the last regular meeting on June 19th. Mike Cecil provided his thoughts on how the tryout process works and how the policies that are written provide some flexibility to manage the process as needed each season and for each sport. Rob Swikart also gave some insight on he thinks it should be handled a year to year basis. All were in agreement to leave the process as is and revisit this at the conclusion of this year's tryouts.
- Kevin Delia asked if the Recreation Commissioner would like to discuss the travel team's expectations document to help with coaches and coordinators to provide greater transparency to the parents. Kevin said that he didn't have time to complete the document but recommended the coaches meetings be mandatory for all travel sports coaches and this

expectations be established there. Mike Cecil suggested that the travel sports policies be shared with the coaches as well as the parents prior to their seasons.

PERSONNEL ISSUES (closed session)

EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed session)

- The Recreation Commission went into closed session to discuss the travel sports coaching approval process.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:33pm

Kerry Chandler made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mike Ingrassia. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by: Kevin Delia